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ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 28 October 1996 from the Permanent Representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Slovenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We should like to state our position with respect to questions resulting from the dissolution of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia which relate to the membership of the successor States in the United Nations. These questions constitute a part of the issue of State succession and have to be settled in accordance with international law and the relevant decisions taken by the competent organs of the United Nations.

The relevant decisions in the case of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are contained in Security Council resolution 777 (1992) and, most recently, resolution 1022 (1995), as well as in General Assembly resolution 47/1. In its resolution 777 (1992), the Security Council stated that the State formerly known as the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia had ceased to exist, and that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) had to apply for membership in the United Nations. These resolutions continue to be applicable and must be strictly adhered to.

All States that have emerged from the dissolution of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which has ceased to exist, are equal successor States. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) also has to follow the procedure for admission of new Member States to the United Nations, which would enable the Organization to make its judgement on whether the conditions set out in Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations are met.

We should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 20, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ambassador Muhamed SACIRBEY
Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina

(Signed) Ambassador Denko MALESKI
Permanent Representative of Macedonia

(Signed) Ambassador Mario NOBILO
Permanent Representative of Croatia

(Signed) Ambassador Danilo TÜRK
Permanent Representative of Slovenia